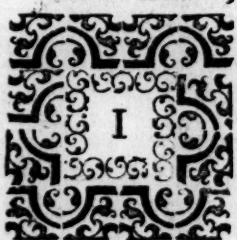


Mr. Charles Lambe's OPINION, how
far the Oath to King GEORGE, and of Ab-
juration, respect the present Elections of Com-
mon-Council-Men.

For the Use of the Inhabitants of St. Katherine Cree-Church.

BRETHREN,



Do believe it is not the Business of a Clergyman to engage himself in any of your publick Elections, unless upon *just* Grounds he apprehends the Safety of your Souls concerned in them.

I Having once in private Conversation given it as my Opinion, that it was not agreeable to the Oaths you have lately taken, to Vote for any Person to represent your Ward in *Common-Council*, who had given just Occasion to be look'd upon as *ill affected* to His Majesty King GEORGE, and the present *Establishment*; and having upon that Account been impudently affronted, and in the Streets on Sunday last, publickly abus'd by one *Leonard Henchman*, of *St. Olaves Hart-street*; for my own Justification, and your Instruction, I was willing to deliver my Sentiments of this Matter, and to lay them before you in this manner.

I do still persist in my Opinion, as above, because by your Oath you are oblig'd, *To defend King GEORGE to the utmost of your Power*; which implies not only to take up Arms in His Defence, against His *open Enemies*; but to discourage, discover, and oppose all his *secret Adversaries*, to shut them out of all Places of Trust, and Honour, thereby to take from them a Capacity to do *Him*, or His Administration hurt.

To represent a Ward in *Common-Council*, is a Place of Trust and Honour, and puts a Man into a Capacity to injure his *King and Government*.

There are two Ways of judging when a Man is ill affected to the King and Government, *viz.*

By his Words. And
By his Actions.

If his whole Conversation turn upon ridiculing and reviling the KING, and His Administration; if he is ever extolling the Strength and Courage of Rebels, and giving his Reasons to justify them in the present Rebellion, you may fairly, and without any Violence to Christian Charity, believe from his *Words*, that he is an Enemy to King GEORGE, and the *present Establishment*.

If a Man is in open Rebellion, or if he refuse to express his Joy with the rest of his Neighbours, by Illuminations for any Success against the Rebels, or having it in his Power prevents the Bells Ringing.

If he makes the Prayers for the *King*, for the Peace and Safety of his Kingdom, the Subjects of his Ridicule in private Conversation, and shews a manifest Disrespect to them in the Publick Church, and justifies himself afterwards in that impudent, profane Behaviour, you may from such his *Actions*, rightly and religiously determine, that he is an *Enemy to King GEORGE*, and the *present Establishment*.

And I do insist upon it, that by Vote, or any other Way to give that Man publick Honours, or to put him into Power directly, or indirectly, to hurt the Government, is *expressly* contrary to the Design and Tenure of the Oaths you have taken, and cannot be justified before God, or Man.

I only beg of you, Brethren, that you would take this in good Part, and believe, that it proceeds from a Necessity of vindicating my Self, and the Obligations I am under, as your Minister, to set you right in an Affair of so much Importance; in which I cannot but think your Consciences, and your Souls greatly concern'd,

Berry-street, Dec.
19. 1715.

Who am, Brethren, Yours, faithfully
in all Spiritual, and Temporal Service,
CHARLES LAMBE.